

## THE INTELLIGENCER.

Published daily (Sundays excepted).

FREW, CAMPBELL &amp; HART, Prop'rs.

At No. 26 and 27, Fourteenth Street.

TERMS OF DAILY: One copy one year, \$4.00. Three months, \$1.25. Six months, \$2.00. One month, 75 cents.

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FREW, CAMPBELL &amp; HART, Wheeling, W. Va.

[Entered at the Postoffice at Wheeling, W. Va., as second-class matter.]

WHEELING, W. VA., AUGUST 10, 1883.

Persons leaving town for the season, and summer travelers, can have THIS DAILY INTELLIGENCER mailed to them, postpaid, for 75 cents per month, the address being changed as often as desired.

What Are We Going to Do About It?

The trouble between the telegraph companies and their late employees—perhaps it should be said the trouble between the Western Union Telegraph Company and its late employees—has brought up for discussion the general question of telegraphic communication. And it may be remarked that this method of communication has become so important a part of our commercial activity, that the Supreme Court of the United States has placed it on the high ground of interstate commerce. No State may therefore throw any obstacle in the way. But a powerful combination of capitalists does obstruct this important feature of interstate commerce; in time of peace, by excessive charges to draw dividends on fictitious value; in time of war—this is a war time—by its inability to serve the public satisfactorily while it is conducting a campaign against its former employees.

The relations between the public and this worst form of monopoly are, under the most favorable conditions, strained and intolerable. Thus far no rival to the Western Union, giving any promise of affording relief, has been able to live. The Western Union Company maintains a graveyard in which it buries those enterprises which get in its way. The ceremony goes by the name of consolidation, but it is nevertheless interment without the hope of resurrection. Witness the Pacific and Atlantic, the Southern and Atlantic, the Atlantic and Pacific, the American Union, last of all the Mutual Union with 40,000 miles of wire. The history of one is the history of all.

Perhaps the Postal Telegraph Company, just born, may prove to be the great rival we are looking for; by the time it becomes of much service it will probably go the way its predecessors went. It may be that the Baltimore &amp; Ohio system will be pushed until it can offer full competition with the Western Union. This we should not expect to see absorbed by the Western Union unless the Baltimore &amp; Ohio railroad company were absorbed at the same time—a little more than Mr. Gould and his friends will attempt to bite off.

But while we are waiting for the deliverer what are we going to do about it? It happens that the Government can well come to the relief, with profit to itself and with great advantage to the people. It is not necessary, certainly it is not desirable, to purchase the Western Union system, based upon stock abnormally distended with "water." It is quite likely that Mr. Gould would be willing to unload water and all on the Government, but that is not the best thing for the country.

Let Mr. Gould hold on to his system. Let anybody who desires build telegraph lines. Let Congress authorize the Post Office Department to construct a system of telegraph to be used in connection with the railroad mail service. There is a surplus in the Treasury and under existing laws the prospective diminution of the revenues is not great. It has been estimated that the whole Western Union system can be duplicated for \$20,000,000 as an outside figure. Mr. Gould's company is able to pay six percent on four times that sum and lay up a surplus. The Government could make a large reduction in tolls and still earn a profit, which might in time enable it to give us one cent postage.

There would be no monopoly about it. There would be no other objection to it.

BREAKFAST BUJET.

Gladstone holds \$20,000 in rebel bonds, and is looking longingly toward the trade dollars.

The dying Egyptians are greatly comforted in knowing that their cholera is not the Asiatic kind.

Miss Alice Ransdale, of Orangeburg, S. C., wears a gold ring which was the wedding ring of her great-grandmother, and is nearly 200 years old.

The Hon. Henry W. Archer, of Maryland, says he is not a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of State, or, indeed, for any political honors.

An Illinois family named Hicks recently went crazy, and were about to nail one of the young children to a wooden cross, when the neighbors prevented the crucifixion. The entire family are in confinement.

On the railroads of England and Wales there were in 1881 about 2,263 inhabitants for every locomotive, as against 2,607 in 1871, and there were 1,017 inhabitants for every passenger car, as compared with 1,232 in 1871.

Massachusetts papers say that Gov. Butler is going to Europe in November to study the history of Christian Emperors of Rome. If we should ever need a Christian Emperor for these United States, Benjamin will be ready.

The most spiteful man in the world has committed suicide in Lower Silesia. He left a letter stating that his purpose was to deprive his heirs of thirty thalers which they would receive from a benevolent society in case his death were natural.

The Duke of Westminster, in a recent speech, declared that the London smoke was the greatest cause of ill health, and that it was a waste in the city alone of £1,000,000 a year. Its effect on public buildings was destructive, and it cost £2,500 a year to repair its damage to the House of Parliament.

Model Mothers-in-Law.

A Burlington man has a mother-in-law who never spoke a cross word to him.

The mother-in-law of the young man in Harlem is a model one. She is deaf and dumb.

A Moravian mother-in-law pays the tailor's bill of her son-in-law. This young man is extremely polite and deferential to her.

An Indians man has come to the tardy vindication of the much abused mother-in-law. Tiring of his wife, he got a divorce and then heroically married her mother.

A Syracuse son-in-law says his wife's mother is an angel. This claim was not even strange when the fact is known that she has been dead for several years.

The daughter-in-law of a Louisville woman claims that her husband's mother is the dearest old lady in the land, because she always does up preserves for her every season.

## West Virginia and President Arthur.

The following letters to the Chicago News were sent from West Virginia:

DEAR SIR:—The President has the confidence of our people regardless of party, and we are all anxious to see him in the White House.

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COAL MINERS WANTED—TWENTY

good Coal Miners can find steady employment at Elm Grove Coal Works. Apply to W. T. G. M. at Elm Grove, W. Va.

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Assistant Book-keeper and Bill Clerk. Must be of good character and habits, rapid penman, quick and correct at figures. One with some knowledge of book-keeping preferred. Send address in own hand writing, with reference, "D. I.," to the office of the

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One six feet Oval Silver-plated Show Case.

Thirteen Glass Candy Jars.

One Pair Counter Scales.

Must be sold this week. Call at 1212 Market Street.

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At Prices that will Make Them go Quickly.

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Have Just Opened a Large Stock of

LUPIN'S BLACK CASHMERE.

These Goods are extra heavy, and will give better satisfaction in wear than other makers, and we will sell them at the price of light and flimsy Cashmere.

BLACK SILKS!

At Low Prices.

We are still selling Black Silk at prices that have made them so popular.

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